(d) Indian Airlines proposes to acquire new aircraft to replace its Airbus A-300 and Boeing-737 aircraft and to augment capacity to cater to annual growth of 5 per cent of domestic traffic. The Airbus A-300 and Boeing B-737 aircraft have become heavy on maintenance and fuel and, as such, costly to maintain and operate.

The process of disinvestment of Indian Airlines could not be completed because no bidder is left in the fray. Decision regarding restarting of the process or otherwise has so far not been taken. In view of this Indian Airlines has been advised to formulate a specific proposal for acquisition of these aircraft for Government's approval.

Creation of Aviation Fund

8. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the new Civil Aviation Policy has proposed to compensate all domestic carriers for their flights on economically unviable social routes throught the creation of an Aviation Fund; and

(b) if so, what are the details of this plan and the quantum of subsidy to be given?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) the draft Civil Aviation Policy which is being finalised, seeks to set up a policy framework to provide safe, efficient, reliable and widespread high quality air transport services at reasonable prices in the country. The policy, *inter-alia*, seeks to create National Civil Aviation Development Fund. AS such the issue is still under the consideration of the Government.

Modernisation of Airport Infrastructure

9. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the on-going schemes / projects for modernisation of airports infrastructure;

(b) the present status of these schemes /projects;

(c) whether any targets have been set for their completion;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) Development and modernization of airports in the country is a continous process and depends upon the traffic requirements, availability of funds, acquisition of land for the purpose etc. The works are undertaken in a phased manner. Major works such as installation of aerobridge, and construction of Fire station at Mumabi airport, construction of cargo, modification of internation terminal etc. at Chennai airport, construction of terminal at Bhuj, upgradation of Amritsar Airport, construction of terminal block cum control tower, fire station, extention of runway etc. at Jaipur airport are in progress at a cost of Rs. 295.72 crores which are likely to be finished between March 2002 to November 2003.

Major works are also planned for modernizing the airports at Hyderabad and Rajahmundry in Andhra Pradesh, Gaya in Bihar, Lilabari, Guwahati and Silchar in Assam, Ahmedabad, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar and Porbandar in Gujarat, Kangra and Shimla in Himachal Pradesh, Jammu, Kargil and Leh in Jammu and Kashmir, Ranchi in Jharkhand, Nagpur in Maharashtra, Jabalpur and Indore in Madhya Pradesh, Imphal in Manipur, Shillong in Meghalaya, Jaisalmer in Rajasthan, Agartala in Tripura, Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh, Dehradun in Uttaranchal and Bagdogra in West Bengal at a cost of Rs. 350.40 crores in phases. Works are in progress and are likely to be completed in between March 2002 to December 2003.

There are plans to install Instrument Landing System at Agartala, Bhavnagar, Bhubaneshwar, Disbrugarh, Dimapur, Jammu, Khajuraho, Lilabari, Madurai, Patna, Ranchi, Silchar, Trichy, Vadodara, Varanasi, and Vizag airports between March 2002 to June 2003. Preliminary works have been undertaken.

Schemes are also at hand to install Doppler Very High Frequency Omni Range [DVOR] at Agatti, Barapani, Bellary, Bhuntar, Chennai, Jamshedpur, Jodhpur, Kanchipuram, Katihar, Madurai,

Mangalore, Moga, Mohanbari, Mumbai, Port Blair, Raipur, Trichy, Udaipur, Vadodara, Vijayawada and Vizag Airports between August 2002 to March 2004. Preliminary works are at hand.

Works are at initial stages to provide with Low Power Distance Measuring Equipments between March 2002 to October 2003 at Agartala, Bhavnagar, Dibrugarh, Dimapur, Jammu, Lilabari, Lucknow, Madurai, Patna, Raipur, Silchar and Vizag airports.

Similarly, works are in progress to provide with high Power Distance Measuring Equipment between August 2002 to March 2004 at Barapani, Belgaum, Bhubaneswar, Chennai, Jaipur, Katihar, Lucknow, Moga, Patna, Port Blair, Trivandrum, Varanasi and Vijayawada airports.

Installation of Flight Data Processing system is in progress at Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Chennai, Nagpur, Trivandrum and Varanasi airports with June 2002 as target date of completion.

High Frequency Transmitters are likely to be installed by December, 2002 at Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata, and Trivandrum airports.

Installation of Automatic Messages Switching System is in progress at Ahmedabad, Allahabad, Bangalore, Cochin, Goa, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Patna and Trivandum airports and is likely to be completed by the end March, 2002.

Testing of Mono-pulse Secondary Surveillance Radar is under progress at Behrampur airport.

By December, 2002, airports at Agartala, Bagdogra, Calicut, Coimbatore, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Madurai, Mangalore, Pune, Trichy and Vizag will have Flight Information Display System.

Closed Circuit Television for Surveillance will be provided by June, 2002 at Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Bangalore, Calicut, Goa, Hyderabad, Jammu and Srinagar airports.